

### 3.4.3 Riparian Woody Plant Survival

Trees and shrubs planted within the riparian buffer areas were tallied and the survival rate is calculated as 74%. The original mitigation plan calls for a rate of 50% after the first year, and the estimated survival exceeds this performance criterion. Due to the seasonal difficulties of tallying surviving plantings the calculated rate may be an underestimate; therefore, tree and shrub counts will again be conducted during the active growing season in May 2011.

Riparian restoration activities at the site have resulted in a diverse assemblage of woody plants, due to the availability of plant material at the time of the corrective actions. In addition, the woody plants are well-distributed and the surviving plants are expected to provide a high percentage of canopy cover in the upland buffer when they mature. Based on this information, cover by woody plants is in significant compliance with the success criteria and it is our opinion that the upland buffer plant community provides a diverse woody plant community that will dominate the non-wetland areas of the stream restoration site, and therefore, meets the mitigation goals for this aspect of the project.